

Amendments to the Claims

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for modulating transcription factor-mediated gene expression comprising exposing said transcription factor to an effective amount of an inhibitory agent which binds to a linker domain of said transcription factor, wherein said transcription factor is EWS/ATF1, wherein said linker domain is located adjacent to the DNA binding domain of ~~the~~ said transcription factor, wherein the inhibitory agent binds with sufficient binding affinity to modulate transcription of the gene.

Claim 2 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein said transcription factor has a DNA-binding domain distinct from an activation domain.

Claim 3 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein said modulation comprises dissociation of the transcription factor from the DNA of said gene.

Claim 4 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein said modulation comprises inhibiting binding of the transcription factor to the DNA of the gene.

Claim 5 (withdrawn): The method of claim 1, wherein said transcription factor is b-ZIP transcription factor.

Claim 6 (withdrawn): The method of claim 1, wherein said transcription factor comprises a helix-loop-helix protein.

Claim 7 (withdrawn): The method of claim 1, wherein said transcription factor comprises a zinc finger protein.

Claims 8-14 (cancelled)

Claim 15 (withdrawn): The method of claim 9, wherein said fusion protein is EWS/FLI.

Claim 16 (withdrawn): The method of claim 9, wherein said fusion protein is PAX/FKHR.

Claim 17 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein said inhibitory agent is selected from the group consisting of an antibody, and a subcomponent of an antibody, ~~a peptide mimetic, and a non-peptide mimetic.~~

Claim 18 (original): The method of claim 17, wherein said inhibitory agent is an antibody.

Claim 19 (original): The method of claim 18, wherein said inhibitory agent is a monoclonal antibody.

Claim 20 (original): The method of claim 17, wherein said inhibitory agent is a subcomponent of an antibody.

Claim 21 (withdrawn): The method of claim 17, wherein said inhibitory agent is a peptide mimetic.

Claim 22 (withdrawn): The method of claim 17, wherein said inhibitory agent is a non-peptide mimetic.

Claim 23 (withdrawn): A method for screening molecules to identify transcription factor modulators, comprising performing electromobility shift assays with DNA in the presence of said molecule and the transcription factor of interest and evaluating the results of disruption of a shift or supershift of said DNA, wherein said transcription factor has a linker domain located adjacent to the DNA binding domain of the transcription factor.

Claim 24 (withdrawn): A method for treating an individual having a transcription factor-mediated disease comprising administering to said individual an effective amount of a composition comprising an inhibitory agent which binds to a linker domain of a transcription factor and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein said linker domain is located adjacent to the DNA binding domain of the transcription factor, and wherein the inhibitory agent binds with sufficient binding affinity to the transcription factor to modulate transcription, and wherein said composition exhibits a therapeutically useful change in transcription factor-mediated cell behavior.

Claim 25 (withdrawn): The method of claim 24, wherein said transcription factor mediated disease is a neoplasia selected from the group consisting of leukemias, lymphomas, and sarcomas.

Claim 26 (withdrawn): The method of claim 24, wherein said transcription factor mediated disease is an infectious disease.

Claim 27 (withdrawn): The method of claim 24, wherein said inhibitory agent is selected from the group consisting of an antibody, a subcomponent of an antibody, a peptide mimetic, and a non-peptide mimetic.

Claim 28 (withdrawn): The method of claim 27, wherein said inhibitory agent is an antibody.

Claim 29 (withdrawn): The method of claim 28, wherein said antibody is a monoclonal antibody.

Claim 30 (withdrawn): The method of claim 27, wherein said inhibitory agent is a subcomponent of an antibody.

Claim 31 (withdrawn): The method of claim 27, wherein said inhibitory agent is a peptide mimetic.

Claim 32 (withdrawn): The method of claim 27, wherein said inhibitory agent is a non-peptide mimetic.

Claim 33 (withdrawn): An inhibitory agent, wherein said inhibitory agent binds to a linker domain of a transcription domain, wherein said linker domain is located adjacent to the DNA binding domain of said transcription factor, and wherein the inhibitory agent binds with sufficient binding activity to said transcription factor to modulate transcription of a gene.

Claim 34 (withdrawn): The inhibitory agent of claim 33, wherein said modulation comprises dissociation of the transcription factor to modulate transcription of a gene.

Claim 35 (withdrawn): The inhibitory agent of claim 33, wherein said modulation comprises inhibiting binding of the transcription factor of the DNA of said gene.

Claim 36 (withdrawn): The inhibitory agent of claim 33, wherein said inhibitory agent is selected from the group consisting of an antibody, a subcomponent of an antibody, a peptide mimetic, and a non-peptide mimetic.

Claim 37 (withdrawn): The inhibitory agent of claim 36, wherein said inhibitory agent is an antibody.

Claim 38 (withdrawn): The inhibitory agent of claim 37, wherein said inhibitory agent is a monoclonal antibody.

Claim 39 (withdrawn): The inhibitory agent of claim 36, wherein said inhibitory agent is a subcomponent of an antibody.

Claim 40 (withdrawn): The inhibitory agent of claim 36, wherein said inhibitory agent is a peptide mimetic.

Claim 41 (withdrawn): The inhibitory agent of claim 36, wherein said inhibitory agent is a non-peptide mimetic.

Claim 42 (withdrawn): The inhibitory agent of claim 33, wherein said transcription factor is a b-ZIP transcription factor.

Claim 43 (withdrawn): The inhibitory agent of claim 33, wherein said transcription factor comprises a helix-loop-helix.

Claim 44 (withdrawn): The inhibitory agent of claim 33, wherein said transcription factor comprises a zinc finger protein.

Claim 45 (withdrawn): The inhibitory agent of claim 33, wherein said transcription factor comprises an oncogenic transcription factor that is a fusion protein with a DNA-binding function.

Claim 46 (withdrawn): A method for modulating transcription factor-mediated replication of viruses comprising exposing said virus to an effective amount of an inhibitory agent which binds to a linker domain of a transcription factor, said linker domain is located adjacent to the DNA binding domain of said transcription factor, wherein said inhibitory agent binds

with sufficient binding affinity to modulate replication of said viruses.

Claim 47 (withdrawn): The method of claim 46, wherein said modulation comprises dissociation of the transcription factor from the DNA of said gene.

Claim 48 (withdrawn): The method of claim 46, wherein said modulation comprises inhibiting binding of the transcription factor from the DNA of said gene.

Claim 49 (withdrawn): A method for modulating transcription factor-mediated cellular proliferation comprising exposing cells to an effective amount of an inhibitory agent which binds to a linker domain of a transcription factor, said linker domain is located adjacent to the DNA binding domain of the transcription factor, wherein said inhibitory agent binds with sufficient binding affinity to modulate proliferation of said cells.

Claim 50 (withdrawn): The method of claim 49, wherein said modulation comprises dissociation of the transcription factor from the DNA of said gene.

Claim 51 (withdrawn): The method of claim 49, wherein said modulation comprises inhibiting binding of the transcription facto to the DNA of said gene.

Claim 52 (withdrawn): The method of claim 1, wherein said inhibitory agent is able to enter the nucleus and bind to the linker domain.

Claim 53 (withdrawn): The inhibitory agent of claim 33, wherein said inhibitory agent binds to the linker domain of said transcription factor in the nucleus of the cell.

Claim 54 (withdrawn): The inhibitory agent of claim 53, wherein said inhibitory agent is sFv4.

Claim 55 (withdrawn): The method of claim 1, further comprising introduction of said inhibitory agent into the nucleus of a cell by the use of retroviral vector.

Claim 56 (new): The method of claim 1, wherein said modulation of transcription factor-mediated gene expression occurs within a cancerous cell.

Claim 57 (new): The method of claim 56, wherein said cancerous cell is a sarcoma.

Claim 58 (new): The method of claim 57, wherein said sarcoma is mesenchymal.

Claim 59 (new): The method of claim 56, wherein said cancerous cell is a Clear Cell Sarcoma.

Claim 60 (new): The method of claim 20, wherein said subcomponent of an antibody is a short chain variable fragment.

Claim 61 (new): The method of claim 61, wherein said short chain variable fragment is sFv4.

Claim 62 (new): The method of claim 1, wherein said linker domain comprises amino acids 205-219 of SEQ ID NO: 1.

Claim 63 (new): The method of claim 1, wherein said inhibitory agent is expressed intracellularly.

Claim 64 (new): The method of claim 64, wherein said inhibitory agent is encoded for in a retroviral vector.